

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides for a system and method facilitating configuration management. The system includes a configuration store that stores persisted configuration and/or dependency information associated with application(s), and, a configuration service component that manages access to the configuration store. The system can further include a configuration management engine (*e.g.*, API) that allows client application(s) to access, query and/or modify setting(s).

In accordance with an aspect of the present invention, application(s) submit an XML assembly manifest which comprises: the assembly identity, the application binaries, its dependencies *etc.* The manifest can also include a configuration section that declaratively specifies the persisted settings for the application. The configuration section includes an XSD-based schema that defines rich types for the settings and the settings themselves, and metadata for these settings including description and default values, manageability attributes (*e.g.*, migrate, backup, policy), and integrity constraints called assertions (that could potentially describe the relationships between settings).